

Brookline Selectboard Minutes (Draft)  
June 3, 2009

1. Chairman Archie Clark called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Present were board members David Ryder, Mike Winot, Alicia Dest, and Doug Wellman. Also present were members of the public Cynthia Nau, Kim Rink, Sonny Rink, Raddy Bloom, and April Wellman. Road Foreman Mark Bills arrived before road discussion started.

2. The minutes of the May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

3. **Members of the Public:** April (Brookline School Board Chair) spoke to the board about the upcoming information meeting and vote on the proposed formation of a joint school district with Newfane. On June 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM there will be an informational meeting at the Newfane School, and on June 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at the Brookline School (residents can attend either, or both). Prior to the meeting information on the proposal will be posted and made available at the Town Office and other public places. On June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 PM the vote will take place at the Brookline School. The consensus was that we should encourage attendance at the informational meetings so our voters can make an informed decision on this very important issue that will have significant long term impacts on the quality of education provided and its financial impact to our taxpayers. Cynthia read a copy of the Windham Regional Commissions resolution honoring Christopher Ballou for his many years of commission. Jim Rogers had asked Doug to bring up his concerns with a dog licensing issue with the Town Clerk. Archie will talk to Penny.

4. **Old Business:** Alicia is still working on the anti-identity theft policy. After she meets with the Town Clerk again to finalize the draft it will be brought to the entire board for approval.

5. **Road Report:**

a. Current work orders include maintenance on Bennett Road, removing a tree by Kim Rinks, sweeping intersections, sign installation and removing seasonal road signs. Mike suggested we rework Whitney Hill road to grade in some of the large stone used during mud season.

b. Update on the bridge on Grassy Brook Road. The rough estimate for the bridge is \$250-300,000 including \$90,000 for painting. This is significantly over the maximum amount we can receive through grants. There was some discussion on the feasibility of splitting replacing the deck surface and painting to minimize the town's financial liability. Whatever we can do this is going to be a major expense to the taxpayers. After additional research we will need to pursue funding for the entire amount.

c. The grant request for Ellen Ware Road culvert number nine was forwarded from the district to the state.

d. Dave received rental backhoe prices from two different vendors. No decision was made on the rental.

e. Dave spoke to four contractors interest in bidding on culvert replacement and ditching. He met with two contractors June 2<sup>nd</sup> and showed the areas needing ditching and culvert replacement. Any bids received will be reviewed at the next meeting. The board decided to dump removed ditching material near the intersection of Putney Mountain and Grassy Brook Roads to fill the area.

f. Dave met with a representative of Tri-State Asphalt Sealing to discuss options for sealing cracks in the roads. Our major concern was the large cracks by Joyce Meehl's which they did not think were good candidates for sealing. The estimates were divided into several sections each of which were very expensive and are higher than can be done within the current budget.

g. Mark asked for more gravel for Bennett Road. Per an agreement with John T. Swing the town will purchase the gravel and then bill him for it. He is responsible for material and the town for labor on the road as far as his house.

#### **6. New Business:**

a. Doug talked to Lisa Birmingham from COMCAST concerning the town-wide cable installation. She will attend the June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss the status of the project.

b. Mike asked about trucking materials for roadwork. He stated that several individuals had asked about the apparent conflict of interest with the current arrangement. Dave will compile a list of possible candidates and prices for future work.

c. Roadside mowing was discussed. Two possible options were discussed, going in with Newfane on their contract or renting equipment like Townshend and providing our own operator.

#### **7. Other Business:**

a. Bruce Capponcelli attended a meeting of the Windham County Solid Waste Management District (WCSWMD) board on May 14<sup>th</sup>. He sent Archie an e-mail summarizing the meeting. The WCSWMD will have a contractor reinstall pipes in the old dump to recover methane and generate power and capture the heat from the generators to heat ponds, grow algae and produce biofuel. We also received correspondence stating our portion of next years budget.

b. Archie had followed up on pre-buying heating oil for the town office. We need to lock in at the current days price. At the next meeting we will see if excess money is available in this years budget and try to lock in.

c. After the listers have finished this year's business we will continue work on the original section of the town office.

8. **Correspondence:** Correspondence was reviewed.

9. **Pay Orders:** Pay orders were reviewed. Accounts payable warrant #19, \$169,547.51 and payroll warrant #22, \$1,358.88. Mike motioned they be approved. Seconded. All voted in favor, approved.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM. The next meeting will be June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the town office.

Respectively submitted  
Douglas Wellman  
Clerk of the Board